
Mimetic Finite Difference Methods for Diffusion Equations on AMR grids

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Objectives

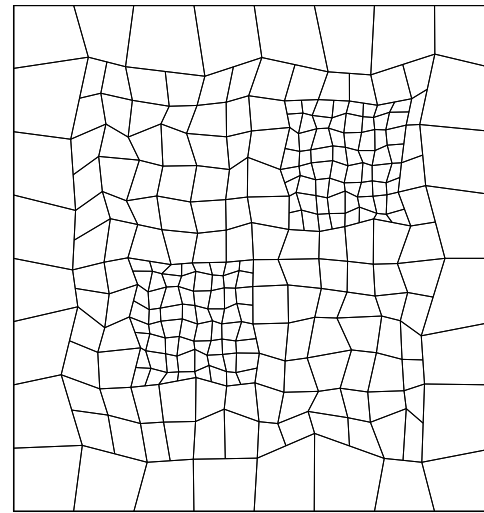
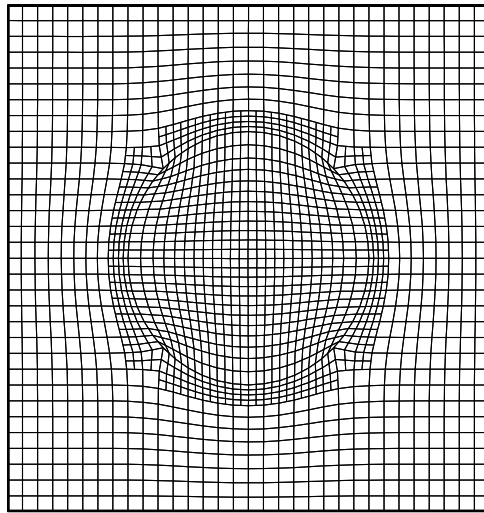
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- preserve and mimic mathematical properties of physical systems;

Objectives

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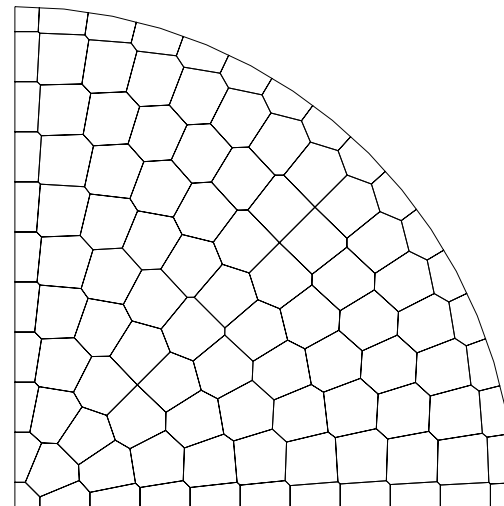
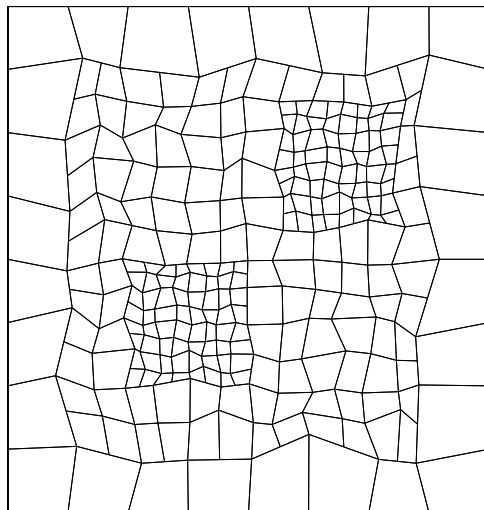
- preserve and mimic mathematical properties of physical systems;
- be accurate on adaptive smooth and non-smooth grids;



Objectives

What do we want from the discretizations?

- preserve and mimic mathematical properties of physical systems;
- be accurate on adaptive grids;
- be applicable to a large family of grids and operators.



Mimetic discretizations (1/6)

Consider the mathematical identity:

$$\int_{\Omega} \operatorname{grad} p \, \mathbf{f} \, dv = - \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{f} \, p \, dv \quad \forall \mathbf{f} \in H_{div}(\Omega), p \in H_0^1(\Omega).$$

Support-operators (SO) methodology (for div & grad):

1. define degrees of freedom for the physical variables (p, \mathbf{f});
2. equip each of the discrete spaces with a scalar product ($[\cdot, \cdot]_Q, [\cdot, \cdot]_X$);
3. choose a discrete approximation to the divergence operator (the *prime* operator **DIV**: $X_d \rightarrow Q_d$);
4. derive the discrete approximation of the gradient operator from the Green formula (the *derived* operator **GRAD**: $Q_d \rightarrow X_d$) s.t. the following discrete identity is enforced:

$$[\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{GRAD} \, p^d]_X = -[\mathbf{DIV} \, \mathbf{f}^d, p^d]_Q \quad \forall p^d \in Q_d, \mathbf{f}^d \in X_d.$$

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Mimetic discretizations (2/6)

Applications of the SO methodology include:

- Electromagnetics: discrete operators DIV , $\overline{\text{GRAD}}$, CURL and $\overline{\text{CURL}}$ mimic:

$$\text{div curl} = 0, \quad \text{curl grad} = 0$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \text{curl} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{H} \, dv = \int_{\Omega} \text{curl} \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{E} \, dv + \oint_{\partial\Omega} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}) \cdot \mathbf{n} \, ds$$

- CFD: discrete operators DIV and GRAD mimic:

$$\int_{\Omega} \text{grad} \mathbf{u} : \mathbf{T} \, dv = - \int_{\Omega} \text{div} \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{u} \, dv + \oint_{\partial\Omega} \mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \, ds$$

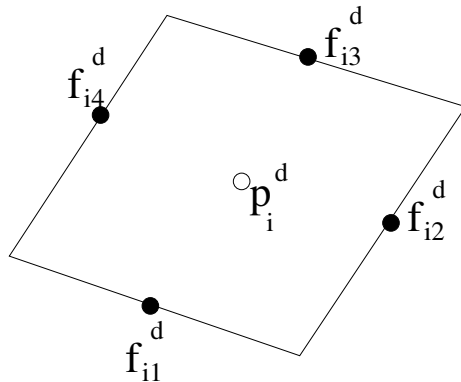
- Gas dynamics, poroelasticity, magnetic diffusion, etc...

Mimetic discretizations (3/6)

- Let Q_d be a vector space of cell-centered discrete scalar functions with the scalar product

$$[p^d, q^d]_Q = \sum_{i=1}^N |e_i| p_i^d q_i^d \quad \forall p^d, q^d \in Q_d.$$

- Let X_d be a vector space of discrete edge-based vector functions with a scalar product $[\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X$. The vector function \mathbf{f}^d is recovered exactly at four vertices of quadrilateral e_i . Let



$$[\mathbf{f}_i^d, \mathbf{g}_i^d]_{X,i} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^4 |e_{ij}| K_i^{-1} \mathbf{f}_{ij}^d \cdot \mathbf{g}_{ij}^d$$

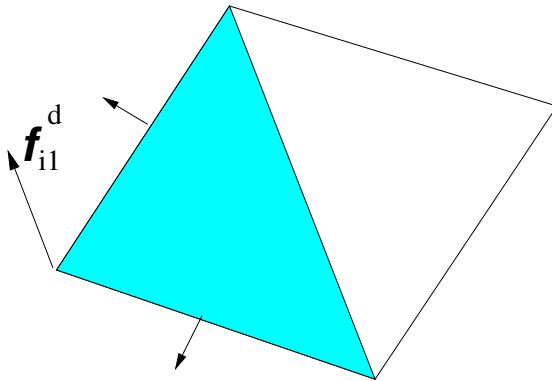
$$\text{Then } [\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X = \sum_{i=1}^N [\mathbf{f}_i^d, \mathbf{g}_i^d]_{X,i}.$$

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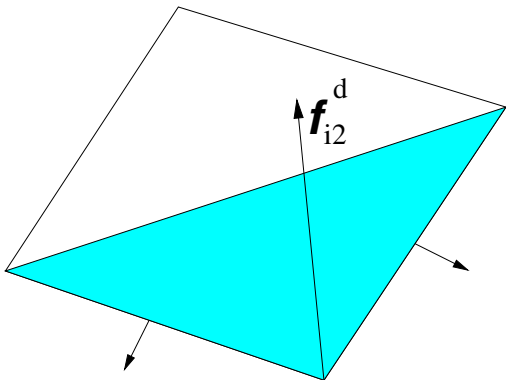
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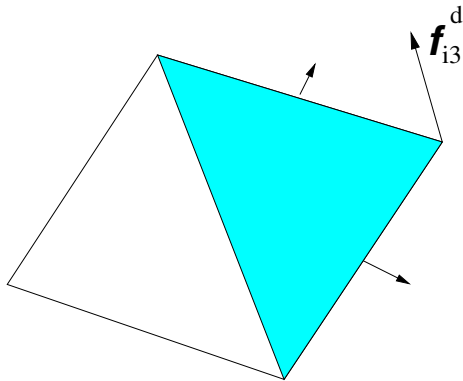
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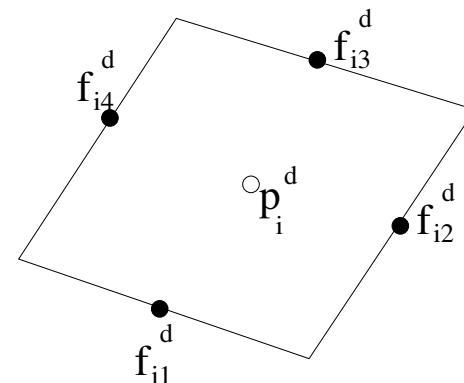
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Mimetic discretizations (4/6)

The prime operator **DIV** is derived from the Gauss theorem:

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{f} = \lim_{|e| \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{|e|} \oint_{\partial e} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dl.$$



Center-point quadrature gives

$$\left(\mathbf{DIV} \mathbf{f}^d \right)_i = \frac{1}{|e_i|} \left(f_{i2}^d |l_2| - f_{i4}^d |l_4| + f_{i3}^d |l_3| - f_{i1}^d |l_1| \right)$$

The derived operator **GRAD** is implicitly given by

$$[\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{GRAD} p^d]_X = -[\mathbf{DIV} \mathbf{f}^d, p^d]_Q \quad \forall p^d \in Q_d, \mathbf{f}^d \in X_d.$$

Mimetic discretizations (5/6)

The stationary diffusion problem

$$\begin{aligned} -\operatorname{div} K \nabla p &= b & \text{in } \Omega \\ p &= 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

is rewritten as the 1st order system

$$\boldsymbol{f} = -K \nabla p, \quad \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{f} = b$$

and discretized as follows:

$$\boldsymbol{f}^d = -\text{GRAD } p^d, \quad \text{DIV } \boldsymbol{f}^d = b^d.$$

Mimetic discretizations (6/6)

By the definition,

$$[\mathbf{f}^d, \text{GRAD } p^d]_X = -[\text{DIV } \mathbf{f}^d, p^d]_Q.$$

Let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ be the usual vector dot product. Then

$$[p^d, q^d]_Q = \langle \mathcal{D}p^d, q^d \rangle, \quad [\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X = \langle \mathcal{M}\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d \rangle.$$

Combining the last two formulas, we get

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{f}^d, \text{GRAD } p^d]_X &= \langle \mathcal{M}\mathbf{f}^d, \text{GRAD } p^d \rangle \\ &= -[\text{DIV } \mathbf{f}^d, p^d]_Q = -\langle \mathbf{f}^d, \text{DIV}^t \mathcal{D} p^d \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\text{GRAD} = -\mathcal{M}^{-1} \text{DIV}^t \mathcal{D}.$$

Connections with FE methods (1/5)

The system of finite difference equations

$$\mathbf{f}^d = -\text{GRAD } p^d, \quad \text{DIV } \mathbf{f}^d = b^d$$

can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X + [\text{GRAD } p^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X &= 0, \\ [\text{DIV } \mathbf{f}^d, q^d]_Q &= [b^d, q^d]_Q. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that by the definition,

$$[\mathbf{f}^d, \text{GRAD } p^d]_X = -[\text{DIV } \mathbf{f}^d, p^d]_Q.$$

Connections with FE methods (2/5)

Thus, the mimetic discretizations are equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X - [\mathbf{DIV} \mathbf{f}^d, p^d]_Q &= 0, \\ -[\mathbf{DIV} \mathbf{f}^d, q^d]_Q &= -[b^d, q^d]_Q, \quad \forall p^d \in Q_d, \mathbf{g}^d \in X_d. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, the MFE method with the *Raviart-Thomas* elements gives

$$\begin{aligned} (K^{-1} \mathbf{f}^h, \mathbf{g}^h) - (\operatorname{div} \mathbf{f}^h, p^h) &= 0, \\ -(\operatorname{div} \mathbf{f}^h, q^h) &= -(b, q^h) \quad \forall q^h \in Q_h, \mathbf{g}^h \in X_h. \end{aligned}$$

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Degrees of freedom:

p^d :	at cell centers	one per cell
\mathbf{f}^d :	normal components at edge centers	normal components

Connections with FE methods (3/5)

There are isomorphisms \mathcal{I}_X and isometry \mathcal{I}_Q :

$$\mathcal{I}_X : X_d \rightarrow X_h, \quad \mathcal{I}_Q : Q_d \rightarrow Q_h.$$

Properties:

- $[p^d, q^d]_Q = (p^h, q^h), \quad p^h = \mathcal{I}_Q(p^d), \quad q^h = \mathcal{I}_Q(q^d)$
- $[\text{DIV } \mathbf{f}^d, p^d]_Q = (\text{div } \mathbf{f}^h, p^h), \quad \mathbf{f}^h = \mathcal{I}_X(\mathbf{f}^d)$
- $[\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X = (K^{-1} \mathbf{f}^h, \mathbf{g}^h) + O(h), \quad \mathbf{g}^h = \mathcal{I}_X(\mathbf{g}^d)$

Therefore $[\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_X$ may be considered as a **quadrature rule** for $(K^{-1} \mathbf{f}^h, \mathbf{g}^h)$.

Connections with FE methods (4/5)

Theorem.

Suppose \mathcal{T}_h is either a shape regular *triangular* or a quasi-uniform *quadrilateral* partitioning of $\bar{\Omega}$ and input data are sufficiently smooth. Denote the solution of the finite difference method by (\mathbf{f}^d, p^d) , and set

$$\mathbf{f}^h = \mathcal{I}_X(\mathbf{f}^d), \quad p^h = \mathcal{I}_Q(p^d).$$

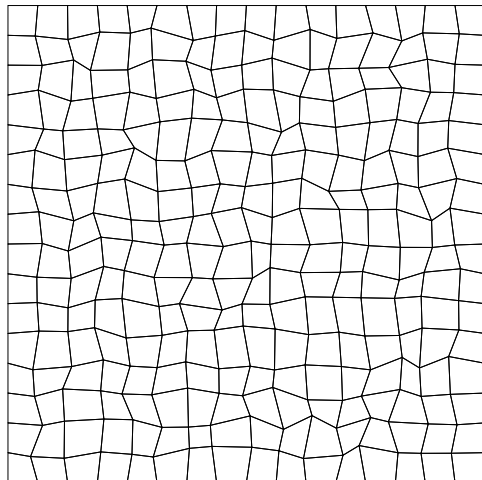
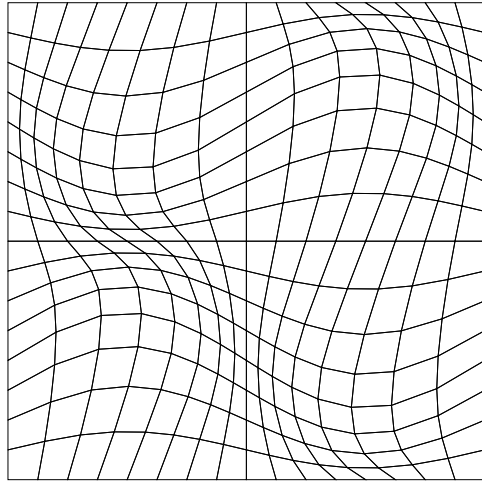
Then, the following error bounds hold

$$\|\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}^h\|_{\text{div}, \Omega} \leq C h \{ \|\mathbf{f}\|_1 + \|\text{div } \mathbf{f}\|_1 \},$$

$$\|p - p^h\|_{\Omega} \leq C h \{ \|p\|_1 + \|\mathbf{f}\|_1 \},$$

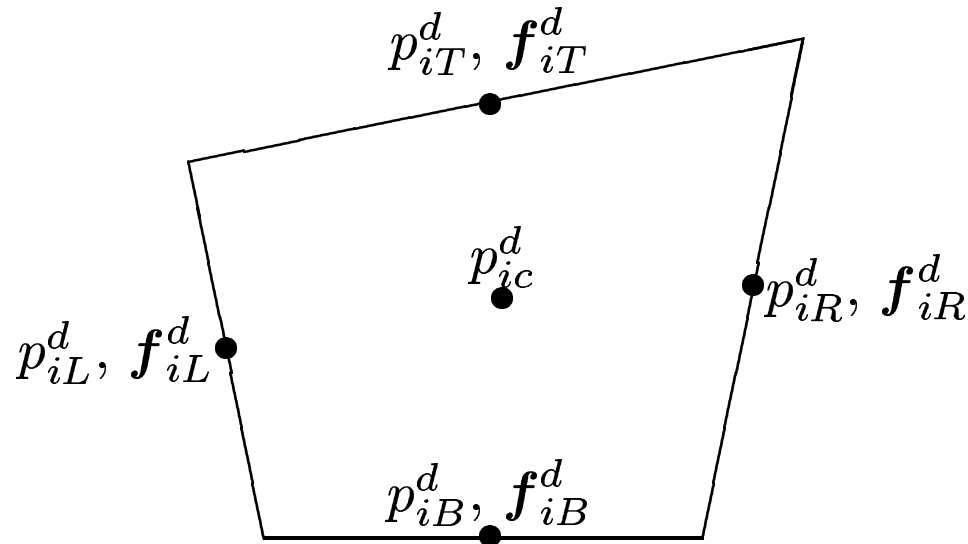
with a positive constant C independent of h .

Connections with FE methods (5/5)



h^{-1}	modified RT FE		SO FD	
	ε_p	ε_f	ε_p	ε_f
16	1.58e-3	2.34e-2	1.61e-3	2.35e-2
32	7.95e-4	1.22e-2	7.99e-4	1.22e-2
64	3.98e-4	6.29e-3	3.99e-4	6.29e-3
128	1.99e-4	3.22e-3	1.99e-4	3.22e-3
256	9.97e-5	1.64e-3	9.97e-5	1.64e-3
512	4.98e-5	8.32e-4	4.98e-5	8.32e-4
	ε_p	ε_f	ε_p	ε_f
16	1.42e-3	2.24e-2	1.43e-3	2.25e-2
32	7.15e-4	1.17e-2	7.18e-4	1.17e-2
64	3.59e-4	5.96e-3	3.59e-4	5.98e-3
128	1.80e-4	3.06e-3	1.80e-4	3.07e-3
256	9.00e-5	1.56e-3	9.00e-5	1.56e-3
512	4.50e-5	7.93e-4	4.50e-5	7.93e-4

Mimetic discretizations (1/4)



The SO method mimics the mathematical identity

$$\int_e \mathbf{f} \cdot \text{grad} p + \int_e \text{div} \mathbf{f} p = \int_{\partial e} p \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{n}.$$

Degrees of freedom:

p^d :	at cell centers and edge centers
f^d :	normal components at edge centers

Mimetic discretizations (2/4)

The prime operator **DIV** is derived from the Gauss theorem:

$$(\mathbf{DIV} \mathbf{f}^d)_i = \frac{1}{|e_i|} (f_{iR}^d |l_{iR}| + f_{iT}^d |l_{iT}| + f_{iL}^d |l_{iL}| + f_{iB}^d |l_{iB}|)$$

Derivation of the discrete identity:

- $\int_{e_i} \mathbf{f} \cdot \text{grad} p \, dx \approx [\mathbf{f}_i^d, (\mathbf{GRAD} p^d)_i]_{X_i}$
- $\int_{e_i} \text{div} \mathbf{f} p \, dx \approx (\mathbf{DIV} \mathbf{f}^d)_i p_i^d |e_i|$
- $\int_{\partial e_i} p \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, ds \approx p_{iR}^d f_{iR}^d |l_{iR}| + p_{iT}^d f_{iT}^d |l_{iT}| + p_{iL}^d f_{iL}^d |l_{iL}| + p_{iB}^d f_{iB}^d |l_{iB}|$

Mimetic discretizations (3/4)

Replacing integrals in the Gauss-Green formula by their approximations, we get

$$(\text{GRAD } p^d)_i = \mathcal{M}_i^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} |l_{iR}|(p_{iR}^d - p_{ic}^d) \\ |l_{iT}|(p_{iT}^d - p_{ic}^d) \\ |l_{iL}|(p_{iL}^d - p_{ic}^d) \\ |l_{iB}|(p_{iB}^d - p_{ic}^d) \end{pmatrix}$$

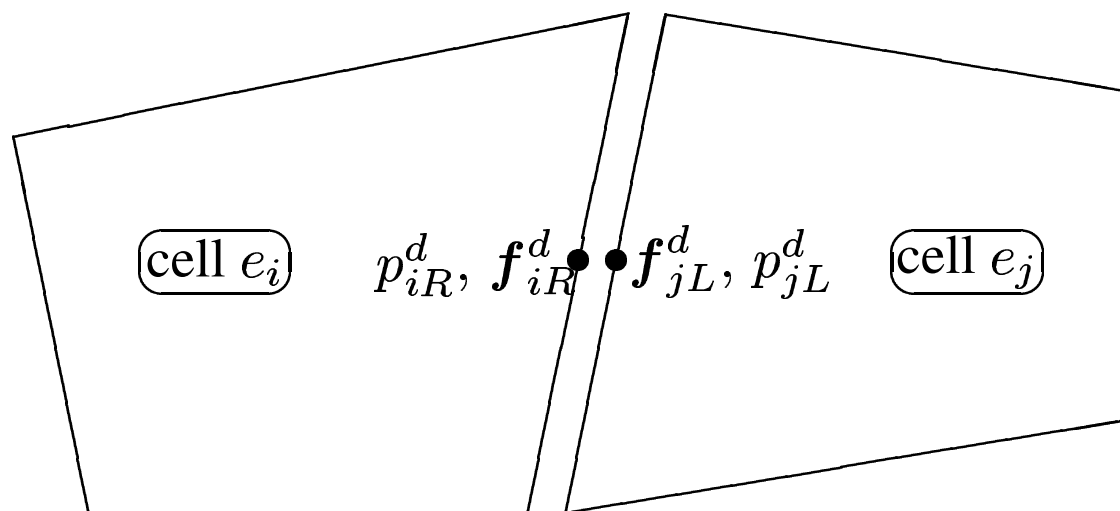
where

$$[\mathbf{f}^d, \mathbf{g}^d]_{X_i} = \langle \mathcal{M}_i \mathbf{f}_i^d, \mathbf{g}_i^d \rangle$$

and $\mathbf{f}_i^d = (f_i^R, f_i^T, f_i^L, f_i^B)^t$. The local discretization reads

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{DIV } \mathbf{f}^d)_i &= b_i^d, \\ \mathbf{f}_i^d &= -(\text{GRAD } p^d)_i. \end{aligned}$$

Mimetic discretizations (4/4)



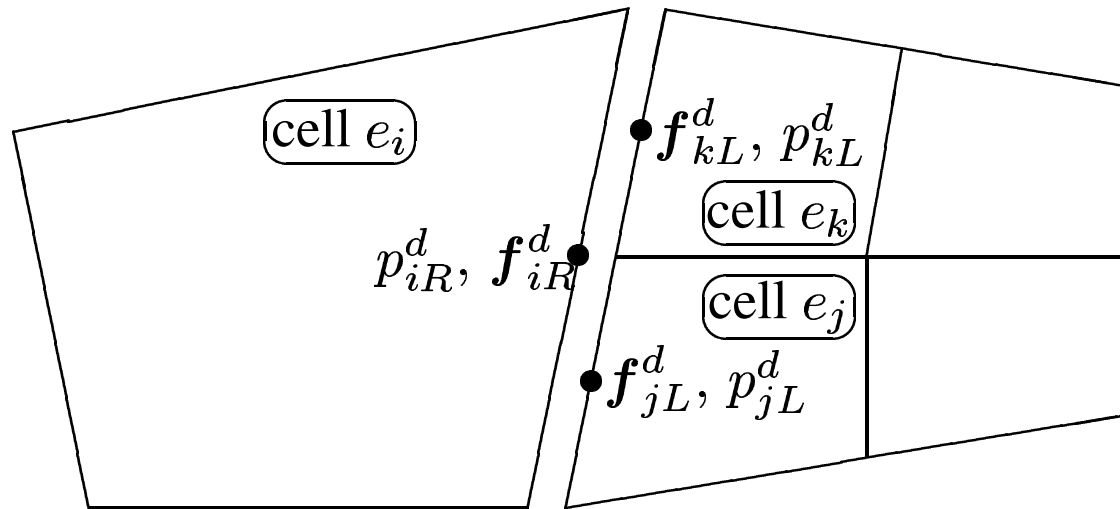
The global discretization is achieved by imposing the continuity of fluxes

$$f_{iR}^d = -f_{jL}^d$$

and interface intensities

$$p_{iR}^d = p_{jL}^d.$$

AMR grids (1/3)



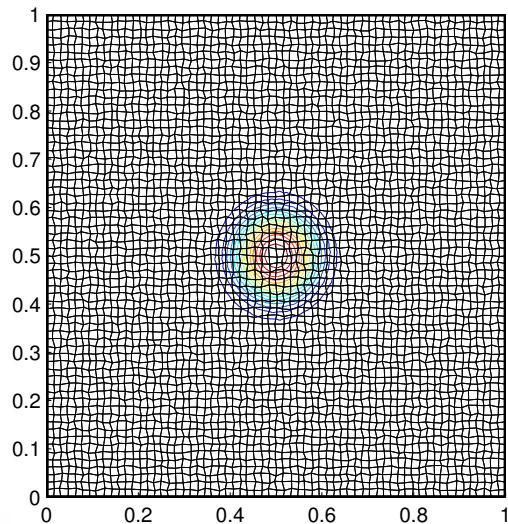
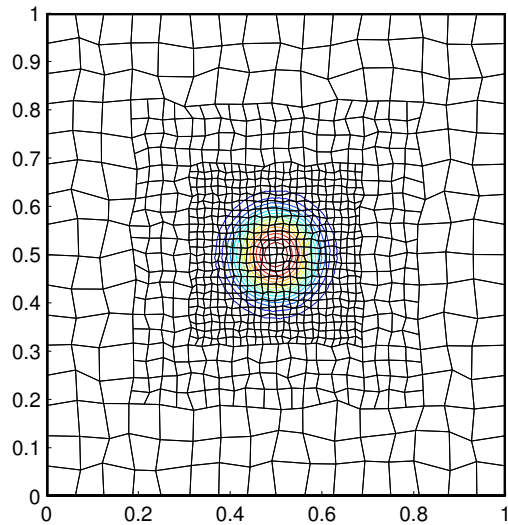
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$$|l_{iR}|p_{iR}^d = |l_{jL}|p_{jL}^d + |l_{kL}|p_{kL}^d.$$

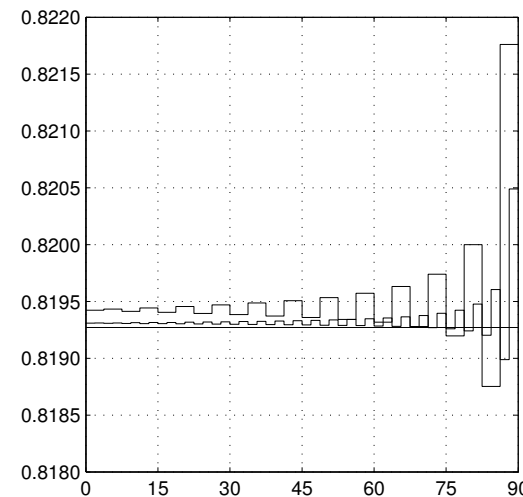
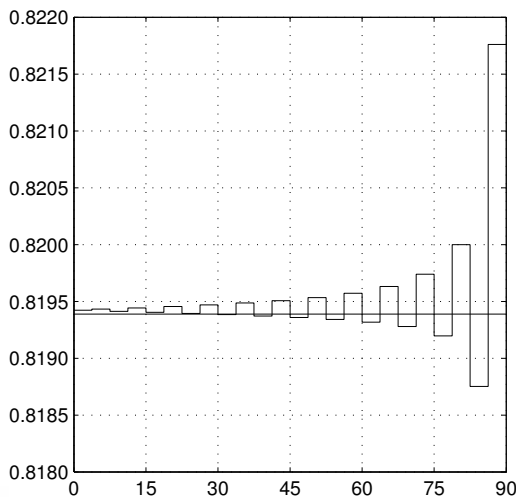
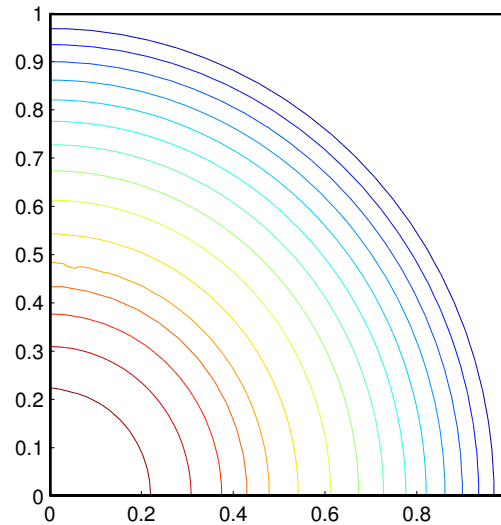
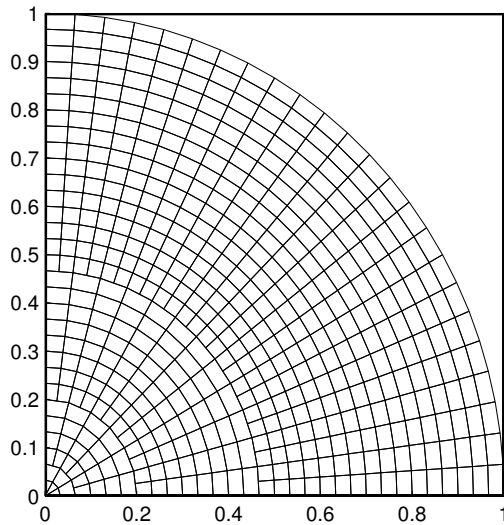
AMR grids (2/3)



l	N	ϵ_p	ϵ_f
AMR grids			
0	256	7.00e-2	8.18e-2
1	556	1.64e-2	3.42e-2
2	988	3.74e-3	1.74e-2
3	3952	9.96e-4	7.57e-3
4	<u>15808</u>	2.40e-4	3.79e-3
Uniform grids			
0	256	7.00e-2	8.18e-2
1	1024	1.79e-2	3.40e-2
2	4096	3.91e-3	1.62e-2
3	16384	9.44e-4	7.30e-3
4	<u>65536</u>	2.32e-4	3.76e-3

$$p(x, y) = 1 - \tanh \left(\frac{(x - 0.5)^2 + (y - 0.5)^2}{0.01} \right).$$

AMR grids (3/3)



Spherically symmetric problem in $r - z$ coordinates with the exact solution:

$$p(R) = \frac{553}{640} - \frac{R^2}{6} - \frac{R^4}{20}$$

when $R < 0.5$ and

$$p(R) = \frac{101}{120} - \frac{R^2}{12} - \frac{R^4}{40}$$

when $0.5 < R < 1$.

Conclusion (1/2)

- we proved convergence of mimetic discretizations for the linear diffusion equation; the convergence rate is optimal;
- the mimetic discretizations based on the SO methodology and FE methods are closely related for the case of triangular (or quadrilateral) conformal meshes and diffusion problems;
- the above relationships are extended to AMR triangular and quadrilateral meshes;
- the numerical experiments on general polygonal meshes show the optimal convergence rate for mimetic discretizations;
- superconvergence error estimates on triangular and quadrilateral meshes can be proved using the relationships mentioned above.

Conclusion (2/2)

References

1. M.Berndt, K.Lipnikov, D.Moulton and M.Shashkov. Convergence of mimetic finite difference discretizations of the diffusion equation, *J. Numer. Math.* (2001) **9**, No. 4, 265-284.
2. K.Lipnikov, J.Morel and M.Shashkov. Mimetic finite difference methods for diffusion equations on non-orthogonal AMR meshes, submitted to J. Comp. Physics.